

Remarks

The following numbered paragraphs are provided to respond to the similarly numbered paragraphs in the Office Action (e.g., paragraph "1" below corresponds to paragraph 1 in the Office Action).

2-3. The Office Action rejected claim 1 as anticipated by Roder. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1 requires, among other things, (1) first and second schematics that include components of first and second different types (e.g., electrical and mechanical), respectively, (2) examining the second schematic to identify components of the second type that are associated with identified components of a first type in a first section of the first schematic and (3) rendering the identified components of the second type accessible. Roder fails to teach or suggest any of the three steps enumerated above.

With respect to the claim 1 limitation requiring first and second separate schematics that include components of first and second different types, Roder teaches a single schematic including two different types of components (e.g., electrical and mechanical components) which is the exact opposite of teaching a first schematic that includes components of a first type and a second schematic that includes components of a second type. To this end, see Roder's Fig. 1 that includes mechanical components (e.g., 11, 24, 23, 21, etc.) as well as electrical components (e.g., 35, 46, 50, etc.) and Roder's Fig. 2 that includes a second mechanical arrangement that can be substituted for a similar mechanical arrangement in Roder's Fig. 1 to perform the same function. Thus, the components of Fig. 2 are identical to the mechanical components of Fig. 1 except that the components have a different arrangement (see that Fig. 2 includes components 30, 31, 21, 23, 42 and 43 as does Fig. 1. The only reason that Roder did not show the electrical components in Fig. 2 was in the interest of simplifying Roder's specification (i.e., showing the electrical components in Fig. 2 would have been duplicative of the illustration in Fig. 1 – see also Roder's col. 8, lines 29-34 that teaches Fig. 2 as a second preferred mechanical arrangement in some cases).

With respect to examining a second schematic for second component types,

Applicant searched Roder very carefully and was unable to identify any teaching of examining a schematic for components of any type. Applicant examined the section of Roder cited in the Office Action (col. 9, line 5 – col. 10, line 13) and is clear that the cited section does not teach or even remotely suggest examining a schematic for component types. More specifically, col. 9, lines 5-20 simply teach different sensor elements that may be included in the drive system while col. 9, line 21 through col. 10, line 13 teach how the system described above operates. To the extent that the Examiner maintains this rejection Applicant requests that the Examiner be more specific regarding where in columns 9 and 10 Roder teaches examining a schematic for component types.

With respect to rendering identified second type components in the second schematic accessible, Roder's Fig. 1 already includes first and second component types and therefore all of the associated component types are initially accessible and the step of rendering components accessible makes no sense in the context of Roder. Regarding the section of Roder cited as teaching rendering components accessible (col. 10, lines 39-45), Applicant believes that the cited section has absolutely nothing to do with rendering schematic components accessible. Instead of teaching rendering of schematic components, Roder's col. 10, lines 39-45 teaches a sub-process that can be performed by the vehicle drive. Again, to the extent that the Examiner sustains rejection of claim 1 in view of Roder, Applicant requests that the Examiner please explain exactly what in Roder's col. 10, lines 39-45 even remotely suggests rendering schematic components accessible.

In short, Roder fails to teach or suggest almost all of the limitations of claim 1 and therefore Applicant requests that the rejection of claim 1 in view of Roder be withdrawn.

4. The Office Action rejected each of claims 70-72 as anticipated by Crawford. Applicant has amended claim 70 to more specifically point out the claimed subject matter. To this end, claim 70 has been amended to now require an electronic visual display screen (e.g., a CRT, an LCD, a plasma screen, etc.) for displaying mechanical and electrical components. While Crawford teaches an electronic visual display screen 22 (see Fig. 3), Crawford teaches that only data is

provided via screen 22 (see Crawford's col. 7, lines 3-16, the display screen is provided so that a user can examine data supplied by sensor cubes 24, output channels 200, external switches 202 and internal control switches 204) and fails to teach or suggest that mechanical and electrical schematic segments are displayed. For at least this reason Applicant believes claim 70 and claims that depend therefrom are patently distinct over Crawford.

5-6. The Office Action rejected claims 2, 16 and 17 as obvious over Roder in view of Lancki. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As described above, Roder fails to teach or suggest most of the limitations of original claim 1 and therefore cannot be relied upon in view of Lancki to obviate claim 2, claim 16 or claim 17.

In addition, Lancki fails to teach or suggest the examining step of claim 1 that Roder lacks. In this regard, Lancki teaches that icons on a main menu (see Fig. 2) can be selected to provide pull down menus that include other selectable icons (see Lancki's col. 7, lines 33-56). In Lancki, however, the pull down menu icons are pre-associated with main menu icons and thus there is no examining step in Lancki. Thus, in Lancki, when a main menu icon is selected, a pull down menu is automatically generated without requiring the step of examining the second schematic for components associated with the selected components in the first schematic.

7. Applicant has amended claim 74 to include the limitations of intervening claims as suggested by the Examiner and to place claim 74 in condition for allowance.

Applicant has added new independent claim 80.

Applicant has introduced no new matter in making the above amendments and antecedent basis exists in the specification and claims as originally filed for each amendment. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes claims 1-34 and 70-80 of the present application recite patentable subject matter

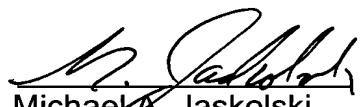
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and allowance of the same is requested. No fee in addition to the fees already authorized in this and accompanying documentation is believed to be required to enter this amendment, however, if an additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 17-0055 in the amount of the fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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